

Message Text

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EA/EP:MHENDERSON

EA/J:DBROWN (INFO)

----- 022567

P 202232Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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FOR HODGSON FROM RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, JA

SUBJECT: RICHARDSON TASK FORCE ON INTERNATIONAL

----- CORPORATE PRACTICES

REF: TOKYO 5305

I. CORRECT NAME OF SUBJECT IS TASK FORCE ON QUESTIONABLE
CORPORATE PAYMENTS ABROAD. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT
THE TASK FORCE HAS NO INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES. ITS
SOLE PURPOSE IS TO MAKE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING
FUTURE CONTROL OF SUCH PRACTICES. RESPONSES TO YOUR
QUESTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THE TASK FORCE IS REQUIRED TO REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

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TO PRESIDENT BY DECEMBER 31, 1976. CERTAIN FACTORS,

INCLUDING PROXMIRE BILL S. 3133, WHICH WOULD INCREASE SEC DISCLOSURE AND MAKE IMPROPER FOREIGN PAYMENTS CRIMINAL OFFENSES UNDER U.S. LAW, MAY REQUIRE TASK FORCE TO REACH PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS BY JUNE 1, 1976. TASK FORCE IS CHARGED WITH CONSULTING QUOTE THE BROADEST BASE OF INTEREST GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS END QUOTE IN ARRIVING AT RECOMMENDATIONS. ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS BY SEC, IRS, DOD, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, AND CHURCH COMMITTEE WILL BE MONITORED SO THAT TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL

BE BASED UPON A FULL AWARENESS OF SCOPE AND DIMENSIONS OF PAST PROBLEM. TASK FORCE WILL ALSO MONITOR ONGOING EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE MULTILATERAL CONSTRAINTS TO QUESTIONABLE PAYMENT PRACTICES.

(B) YES, CONSISTENT WITH CONSULTATION MANDATE DESCRIBED IN (A) ABOVE. ALSO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IS LIKELY TO BE REQUESTED TO REPORT ON JAPANESE LAW AND CUSTOMS REGARDING QUESTIONABLE PAYMENTS.

(C) WORK PLAN OF THE TASK FORCE HAS NOT BEEN FULLY DEVELOPED. CURRENT TENTATIVE PLANS DO NOT INVOLVE CONSULTATION WITH GOJ OR PRIVATE SOURCES IN JAPAN.

(D) TASK FORCE HAS STAFF STEERING COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY RICHARD G. DARMAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY AND J. T. SMITH, GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. STATE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON STEERING COMMITTEE ARE MARK FELDMAN, DEPUTY LEGAL ADVISER, AND PAUL BOEKER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS. ROBINSON

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